the latest revision (Rome, 1928) of the convention for the protection of literary and artistic works, on which the International Copyright Union rests. All the important nations, except China, Russia, and the United States, are members of this union (established at Berne in 1887). Compliance with the copyright laws of any union country carries automatic protection throughout the union. The United States is barred, chiefly because of its manufacturing clause. One who writes in English, whether American or British, must as a result publish twice if he is to have legal protection on both sides of the water.

Consequently, if the President would send the Rome convention to the Senate and if it were ratified, the problem would be solved. There is ample precedent for such a course, since both the Pan American copyright convention of 1910 (proclaimed July 13, 1914) and the industrial union (i.e., patents) convention of 1883 (proclaimed June 11, 1887) were so handled. To be sure, good faith would suggest attendant amendatory legislation. Such an amending bill, short and simple, has already been introduced, in the last session of Congress, and referred to committees. This bill is S. 1928, or H. R. 6353.

Organizations and interested individuals would do well to write the Secretary of State urging this action on the part of the administration. Submission of the Rome convention and endorsement of S. 1928 would probably insure admission to the union and this would at once clear the Nation's good name, improve international relations, and be a boon to authorship. An American writer would then get world-wide protection by mere act of creation, and all piracy of foreign publications would be outlawed.

Upon motion this matter was referred to a committee of three, consisting of William E. Lingelbach, Charles Warren, and Conyers Read, with power to act.

Election of treasurer.—The issues involved were discussed informally before the council. Attention was drawn to a petition, properly executed and addressed to the secretary of the Association, calling for the insertion of the name of Constantine E. McGuire on the official ballot in the place provided for nomination by petition.

The executive secretary was instructed to have new ballots prepared for the purpose.¹

Upon motion the meeting adjourned.

PROGRAM OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN URBANA, ILLINOIS, DECEMBER 27–29, 1933

A running account of this meeting appears in The American Historical Review for April 1934, pp. 423 ff.

The papers read on that occasion which have since been published or for which publishing arrangements have been completed are listed below:

Presidential address: Charles A. Beard, "Written History an Act of Faith", in The American Historical Review, January 1934, pp. 219 ff.

John D. Barmhart, "Sources of the Southern Migration Into the Old Northwest", in The Mississippi Valley Historical Review, June 1935, pp. 49 ff.

J. A. O. Larsen, "The Provincial Assemblies Under the Late Roman Empire", in Classical Philology, July 1934, pp. 209 ff.

George Vernadsky, "L'industrie russe sous Pierre le Grand", in Le Monde Slave, November 1934, pp. 283 ff.

R. M. Tryon, "The Place of History In a Program of Integration", in The Elementary School Journal, May 1934, pp. 667 ff.


¹ See pp. 23 and 46


MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT THE WOMAN’S BUILDING, THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, ON DECEMBER 29, 1933

Dr. Charles A. Beard called the annual meeting to order at 1:30 p. m., on Friday, December 29, 1933. The report of the secretary was read and approved. The report of the Treasurer was distributed and some significant parts of it were read by the treasurer. Upon motion by S. F. Bemis from the floor a vote of thanks was passed for the services of the secretary and the treasurer.

Upon recommendation by the council of the Association the following amendment to the constitution was presented for action by the annual meeting:

Article VII is hereby amended by striking out the following words:

“No investments of any of the permanent funds of the Association shall be made or changed except with the advice and consent of a majority of the trustees. The liability of the individual members of the board shall be limited to good faith in the discharge of the duties resting upon them.

and by inserting in place thereof the following:

The board of trustees, acting by a majority thereof, shall have the power to invest and reinvest the permanent funds of the Association, with authority

1 See pp. 23 ff.
2 See pp. 26 ff.